

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for controlling or monitoring a target software component of an isolated execution unit, the method comprising:

introducing an intermediary software component within an isolated execution

5 unit;

indicating an identifier of a target software component to the intermediary software component;

starting the target software component having the indicated identifier within the isolated execution unit; and

10 establishing a communication path between the intermediary software component and an external program that is outside of the isolated execution unit whereby the external program can control or monitor the target software component via the established communication path.

15 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the established communication path uses an inter isolation communication protocol.

3. A method as recited in claim 2, where the inter isolation communication protocol is a remote method invocation technique.

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4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the communication path is established by the intermediary software component.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising initializing the isolated  
25 execution unit.

6. A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the isolated execution unit is initialized by the intermediary software component.

5 7. A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising indicating one or more parameters for initializing the isolated execution unit, wherein the initialization of the isolated execution unit is based on the indicated one or more parameters.

8. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the external program indicates the one  
10 or more parameters.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
indicating an execution control parameter to the intermediary software  
component; and  
15 invoking the indicated execution control parameter on the target software  
component using an application programming interface (API) of the target software  
component.

10. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the execution control parameter is a  
20 request that has a first format of an inter isolation communication protocol, the  
method further comprising translating the first format into a second format that is  
acceptable by the API of the target software component.

11. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the intermediary software  
25 component performs the translation.

12. A method as recited in claim 9, further comprising:

receiving a result at the intermediary software component from the target component in response to the invoked execution control parameter; and

5 sending the result to the external program.

13. A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the intermediary software component sends the result.

10 14. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the result has a first format that is acceptable by the API of the target software component, the method further comprising translating the first format into a second format that is an inter isolation communication protocol before sending the result to the external program.

15 15. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the identifier of the target software component is provided by the external program.

16. A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling or monitoring a target software component of an isolated execution unit, the computer  
20 readable medium comprising:

computer code for introducing an intermediary software component within an isolated execution unit;

computer code for indicating an identifier of a target software component to the intermediary software component;

computer code for starting the target software component having the indicated identifier within the isolated execution unit; and

computer code for establishing a communication path between the intermediary software component and an external program that is outside of the isolated execution unit whereby the external program can control or monitor the target software component via the established communication path.

17. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 16, wherein the established communication path uses an inter isolation communication protocol.

18. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 17, where the inter isolation communication protocol is a remote method invocation technique.

19. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 16, wherein the communication path is established by the intermediary software component.

20. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 16, further comprising computer code for initializing the isolated execution unit.

21. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 20, wherein the isolated execution unit is initialized by the intermediary software component.

22. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 21, further comprising computer code for indicating one or more parameters for initializing the isolated

execution unit, wherein the initialization of the isolated execution unit is based on the indicated one or more parameters.

23. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 22, wherein the external  
5 program indicates the one or more parameters.

24. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 16, further comprising:  
computer code for indicating an execution control parameter to the  
intermediary software component; and

10 computer code for invoking the indicated execution control parameter on the  
target software component using an application programming interface (API) of the  
target software component.

25. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 24, wherein the execution  
15 control parameter is a request that has a first format of an inter isolation  
communication protocol, the computer readable medium further comprising computer  
code for translating the first format into a second format that is acceptable by the API  
of the target software component.

20 26. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the intermediary  
software component performs the translation.

27. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 24, further comprising:

computer code for receiving a result at the intermediary software component from the target component in response to the invoked execution control parameter; and

computer code for sending the result to the external program.

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28. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 27, wherein the intermediary software component sends the result.

29. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 28, wherein the result has a first format that is acceptable by the API of the target software component, the computer readable medium further comprising computer code for translating the first format into a second format that is an inter isolation communication protocol before sending the result to the external program.

30. A computer readable medium as recited in claim 16, wherein the identifier of the target software component is provided by the external program.

31. A computer implemented system operable to control or monitor a target software component of an isolated execution unit, comprising:

an isolated execution unit;

an intermediary software component within the isolated execution unit; and

an external program that is outside of the isolated execution unit, the external program being configured to indicate an identifier of a target software component to the intermediary software component,

wherein the intermediary software component is configured to start the target software component having the indicated identifier within the isolated execution unit and establish a communication path between the intermediary software component and the external program whereby the external program can control or monitor the target software component via the established communication path.

32. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 31, wherein the established communication path uses an inter isolation communication protocol.

33. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 32, where the inter isolation communication protocol is a remote method invocation technique.

34. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 31, wherein the intermediary software component is further configured to initialize the isolated execution unit.

35. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 34, wherein the external program is further configured to indicate one or more parameters for initializing the isolated execution unit to the intermediary software component, wherein the initialization of the isolated execution unit is based on the indicated one or more parameters.

36. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 31, wherein the external program is further configured to indicate an execution control parameter to the intermediary software component and the intermediary software component is further

configured to invoke the indicated execution control parameter on the target software component using an application programming interface (API) of the target software component.

5 37. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 36, wherein the execution control parameter is a request has a first format that is an inter isolation communication protocol, the intermediary software component being further configured to translate the first format into a second format that is acceptable by the API of the target software component.

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38. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 36, wherein the intermediary software component is further configured to receive a result at the intermediary software component from the target component in response to the invoked execution control parameter and send the result to the external program.

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39. A computer implemented system as recited in claim 12, wherein the result has a first format that is acceptable by the API of the target software component, the intermediary software component being further configured to translate the first format into a second format that is an inter isolation communication protocol before sending  
20 the result to the external program.